MICHAEL FAILLACE ESQ. Michael A. Faillace [MF-8436] 60 East 42nd Street, suite 4510 New York, New York 10165 Telephone: (212) 317-1200 Facsimile: (212) 317-1620 Attorneys for Plaintiffs

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

ALEJANDRO BAUTISTA MOLINA AND LUIS CRUZ, individually and on behalf of others similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

-against-

COMPLAINT

COLLECTIVE ACTION UNDER 29 U.S.C. § 216(b)

ECF Case

HUNTS POINT JUICE BAR & DELI CORP. (d/b/a HUNTS POINT JUICE BAR & DELI), ARMANDO GONZALEZ and MARCOS FLORES,

Defendants.	
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Plaintiffs Alejandro Bautista Molina and Luis Cruz, individually and on behalf of others similarly situated (collectively, "Plaintiffs"), by and through their attorneys, Michal Faillace Esq., upon their knowledge and belief, and as against Hunts Point Juice Bar & Deli Corp. (d/b/a Hunts Point Juice Bar & Deli)("Defendant Corporation"), Armando Gonzalez and MARCOS FLORES, ("Individual Defendants"), (collectively, "Defendants"), allege as follows:

NATURE OF THE ACTION

- 1. Plaintiffs are former employees of defendants Hunts Point Juice Bar & Deli Corp. (d/b/a Hunts Point Juice Bar & deli), Armando Gonzalez and MARCOS FLORES (collectively "Defendants").
- 2. Defendants own, operate, or control a Juice Bar & deli located at 620 Manida Street, Bronx, New York 10474 under the name Hunts Point Juice Bar & Deli.
- 3. Upon information and belief, individual defendants Armando Gonzalez and MARCOS FLORES, serve or served as owners, managers, principals, or agents of Defendant Corporation and, through these corporate entities, operate or operated the juice bar/deli as a joint or unified enterprise.
- 4. Plaintiffs were employed as a food/sandwich preparer/dishwasher/stocker and ostensibly as a delivery worker. However, the delivery worker was required to spend a considerable part of his work day performing non-tipped, non-delivery duties, including but not limited to various juice bar and deli duties such as preparing salads, accommodating newly arrived deliveries, cleaning the kitchen, changing the oil from the frying machine, cleaning the entire business and dishwashing (hereafter the "non-tipped, non-delivery duties").
- 5. At all times relevant to this Complaint, Plaintiffs worked for Defendants in excess of 40 hours per week, without appropriate minimum wage or overtime compensation for the hours that they worked.
- 6. Rather, Defendants failed to maintain accurate recordkeeping of the hours worked, failed to pay Plaintiffs appropriately for any hours worked, either at the straight rate of pay or for any additional overtime premium.
 - 7. Further, Defendants failed to pay Plaintiffs the required "spread of hours" pay for

any day in which they had to work over 10 hours a day.

- 8. Defendants employed and accounted for Plaintiff Bautista as a delivery worker in their payroll, but in actuality Plaintiff Bautista's duties required a significant amount of time spent in non-tipped, non-delivery duties.
- 9. Regardless, at all relevant times, Defendants paid Plaintiff Bautista at the tipcredit rate.
- 10. In addition, under state law, Defendants were not entitled to take a tip credit because Plaintiff Bautista's non-tipped duties exceeded 20% of each workday, or 2 hours per day, whichever is less in each day. 12 N.Y. C.R.R. §146.
- 11. Upon information and belief, Defendants employed the policy and practice of disguising Plaintiff Bautista's actual duties in payroll records by designating him as a delivery worker instead of non-tipped employee. This allowed Defendants to avoid paying Plaintiff Bautista at the minimum wage rate and enabled them to pay him at the lower tip-credited rate.
- 12. Defendants' conduct extended beyond Plaintiffs to all other similarly situated employees.
- 13. At all times relevant to this Complaint, Defendants maintained a policy and practice of requiring Plaintiffs and other employees to work in excess of forty (40) hours per week without providing the minimum wage and overtime compensation required by federal and state law and regulations.
- 14. Plaintiffs now bring this action on behalf of themselves, and other similarly situated individuals, for unpaid minimum and overtime wages pursuant to the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, 29 U.S.C. § 201 et seq. ("FLSA"), and for violations of the N.Y. Labor Law §§ 190 et seq. and 650 et seq. (the "NYLL"), and the "spread of hours" and overtime wage

orders of the New York Commissioner of Labor codified at N.Y. COMP. CODES R. & REGS. tit. 12, § 146-1.6 (herein the "Spread of Hours Wage Order"), including applicable liquidated damages, interest, attorneys' fees and costs.

15. Plaintiffs seek certification of this action as a collective action on behalf of themselves individually and all other similarly situated employees and former employees of Defendants pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b).

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 16. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1331 (federal question) and the FLSA, and supplemental jurisdiction over Plaintiffs' state law claims under 28 U.S.C. § 1367(a).
- 17. Venue is proper in this district under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) and (c) because all, or a substantial portion of, the events or omissions giving rise to the claims occurred in this district, Defendants maintain their corporate headquarters and offices within this district, and Defendants operate a Juice Bar & deli located in this district. Further, Plaintiffs were employed by Defendants in this district.

THE PARTIES

Plaintiffs

18. Plaintiff Alejandro Bautista Molina ("Plaintiff Bautista" or "Mr. Bautista") is an adult individual residing in Bronx County, New York. Plaintiff Bautista was employed by Defendants from approximately March 2024 until on or about November 2024.

19. Plaintiff Luis Cruz ("Plaintiff Cruz" or "Mr. Cruz") is an adult individual residing in Bronx County, New York. Plaintiff Cruz was employed by Defendants from approximately September 2022 until on or about December 20, 2024.

Defendants

- 20. At all relevant times, Defendants own, operate, or control a Juice Bar & deli located at 620 Manida Street, Bronx, New York 10474 under the name "Hunts Point Juice Bar & Deli".
- 21. Upon information and belief, Hunts Point Juice Bar & Deli Corp. (d/b/a Hunts Point Juice Bar & Deli) is a domestic corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of New York. Upon information and belief, it maintains its principal place of business at 620 Manida Street, Bronx, New York 10474.
- 22. Defendant Armando Gonzalez is an individual engaging (or who was engaged) in business in this judicial district during the relevant time period. Defendant Armando Gonzalez is sued individually in his capacity as owner, officer and/or agent of the Defendant Corporation.

 Defendant Armando Gonzalez possesses operational control over Defendant Corporation, an ownership interest in Defendant Corporation, and controls significant functions of Defendant Corporation. He determines the wages and compensation of the employees of Defendants, including Plaintiffs, establishes the schedules of the employees, maintains employee records, and has the authority to hire and fire employees.
- 23. Defendant Marcos Flores is an individual engaging (or who was engaged) in business in this judicial district during the relevant time period. Defendant Marcos Flores is sued individually in his capacity as owner, officer and/or agent of the Defendant Corporation.

 Defendant Marcos Flores possesses operational control over Defendant Corporation, an

ownership interest in Defendant Corporation, or controls significant functions of Defendant Corporation. He determines the wages and compensation of the employees of Defendants, including Plaintiffs, establishes the schedules of the employees, maintains employee records, and has the authority to hire and fire employees.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

Defendants Constitute Joint Employers

- 24. Defendants operate a Juice Bar & deli located in the South Bronx section of the Bronx in New York City.
- 25. The individual defendants, Armando Gonzalez and MARCOS FLORES, possess operational control over Defendant Corporation, possess ownership interests in Defendant Corporation, and control significant functions of Defendant Corporation.
- 26. Defendants are associated and joint employers, act in the interest of each other with respect to employees, pay employees by the same method, and share control over the employees.
- 27. Each Defendant possessed substantial control over Plaintiffs' (and other similarly situated employees') working conditions, and over the policies and practices with respect to the employment and compensation of Plaintiffs, and all similarly situated individuals, referred to herein.
- 28. Defendants jointly employed Plaintiffs (and all similarly situated employees) and are Plaintiffs' (and all similarly situated employees') employers within the meaning of 29 U.S.C. 201 *et seq.* and the NYLL.

- 29. In the alternative, Defendants constitute a single employer of Plaintiffs and/or similarly situated individuals.
- 30. Upon information and belief, individual defendants Armando Gonzalez and MARCOS FLORES, operate Defendant Corporation as either an alter ego of themselves and/or fail to operate Defendant Corporation as an entity legally separate and apart from themselves, by among other things:
 - failing to adhere to the corporate formalities necessary to operate Defendant
 Corporation as a Corporation,
 - b. defectively forming or maintaining the corporate entity of Defendant
 Corporation, by, amongst other things, failing to hold annual meetings or
 maintaining appropriate corporate records,
 - c. transferring assets and debts freely as between all Defendants,
 - d. operating Defendant Corporation for their own benefit as the sole or majority shareholders,
 - e. operating Defendant Corporation for their own benefit and maintaining control over it as a closed Corporation,
 - f. intermingling assets and debts of their own with Defendant Corporation,
 - g. diminishing and/or transferring assets of Defendant Corporation to avoid full
 liability as necessary to protect their own interests, and
 - h. other actions evincing a failure to adhere to the corporate form.
- 31. At all relevant times, Defendants were Plaintiffs' employers within the meaning of the FLSA and New York Labor Law. Defendants had the power to hire and fire Plaintiffs,

controlled the terms and conditions of employment, and determined the rate and method of any compensation in exchange for Plaintiffs' services.

- 32. In each year, from 2022 to 2024, Defendants, both separately and jointly, had a gross annual volume of sales of not less than \$500,000 (exclusive of excise taxes at the retail level that are separately stated).
- 33. In addition, upon information and belief, Defendants and/or their enterprise were directly engaged in interstate commerce. As an example, numerous items that are used in the juice bar/deli on a daily basis are goods produced outside of the State of New York.

Individual Plaintiffs

- 34. Plaintiffs are former employees of Defendants who were employed as a food/sandwich preparer/dishwasher/stocker and ostensibly as a delivery worker. However, the delivery worker spent a considerable amount of time performing the non-tipped, non-delivery duties described above.
- 35. Plaintiffs seek to represent a class of similarly situated individuals under 29 U.S.C. 216(b).

Plaintiff Alejandro Bautista Molina

- 36. Plaintiff Bautista was employed by Defendants from approximately March 2024 until on or about November 2024.
 - 37. Defendants ostensibly employed Plaintiff Bautista as a delivery worker.
- 38. However, Plaintiff Bautista also was required to spend a significant portion of his work day performing the non-tipped, non-delivery duties described above.

- 39. Although Plaintiff Bautista ostensibly was employed as a delivery worker, he spent over 20% of each day performing non-delivery work throughout his employment with Defendants.
- 40. Plaintiff Bautista regularly handled goods in interstate commerce, such as food and other supplies produced outside the State of New York.
- 41. Plaintiff Bautista's work duties required neither discretion nor independent judgment.
- 42. Throughout his employment with Defendants, Plaintiff Bautista regularly worked in excess of 40 hours per week.
- 43. From approximately March 2024 until on or about November 2024, Plaintiff Bautista worked from approximately 6:00 a.m. until on or about 5:00 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays (typically 66 hours per week).

Throughout his employment, defendants paid Plaintiff Bautista his wages in cash.

- 44. From approximately March 2024 until on or about November 2024, defendants paid Plaintiff Bautista a fixed salary of \$500 per week.
- 45. Defendants never granted Plaintiff Bautista any meal breaks or rest periods of any kind.
- 46. Plaintiff Bautista was never notified by Defendants that his tips were being included as an offset for wages.
- 47. Defendants did not account for these tips in any daily or weekly accounting of Plaintiff Bautista's wages.
- 48. No notification, either in the form of posted notices or other means, was ever given to Plaintiff Bautista regarding overtime and wages under the FLSA and NYLL.

- 49. Defendants did not provide Plaintiff Bautista an accurate statement of wages, as required by NYLL 195(3).
- 50. Defendants did not give any notice to Plaintiff Bautista, in English and in Spanish (Plaintiff Bautista's primary language), of his rate of pay, employer's regular pay day, and such other information as required by NYLL §195(1).

Plaintiff Luis Cruz

- 51. Plaintiff Cruz was employed by Defendants from approximately September 2022 until on or about December 20, 2024.
- 52. Defendants employed Plaintiff Cruz as a food/sandwich preparer/dishwasher/stocker.
- 53. Plaintiff Cruz regularly handled goods in interstate commerce, such as food and other supplies produced outside the State of New York.
 - 54. Plaintiff Cruz's work duties required neither discretion nor independent judgment.
- 55. Throughout his employment with Defendants, Plaintiff Cruz regularly worked in excess of 40 hours per week.
- 56. From approximately September 2022 until on or about December 20, 2024, Plaintiff Cruz worked from approximately 6:00 a.m. until on or about 4:45 p.m. Mondays through Fridays (typically 56.5 hours per week).
 - 57. At all relevant times, Plaintiff Cruz was paid his wages in cash.
- 58. From approximately September 2022 until on or about December 20, 2024, defendants paid Plaintiff Cruz a fixed salary of \$750 per week.
- 59. Plaintiff Cruz's pay did not vary even when he was required to stay late or work a longer day than his usual schedule.

- 60. Specifically, defendants regularly required Plaintiff Cruz to work at least 45 minutes past his scheduled departure time and did not compensate him for the additional time they required him to work.
 - 61. Defendants never granted Plaintiff Cruz a meal break or rest period of any kind.
- 62. No notification, either in the form of posted notices or other means, was ever given to Plaintiff Cruz regarding overtime and wages under the FLSA and NYLL.
- 63. Defendants did not provide Plaintiff Cruz an accurate statement of wages, as required by NYLL 195(3).
- 64. Defendants did not give any notice to Plaintiff Cruz, in English and in Spanish (Plaintiff Cruz's primary language), of his rate of pay, employer's regular pay day, and such other information as required by NYLL §195(1).

Defendants' General Employment Practices

- 83. At all times relevant to this Complaint, Defendants maintained a policy and practice of requiring Plaintiffs (and all similarly situated employees) to work in excess of 40 hours a week without paying them appropriate minimum wage, spread of hours pay and overtime compensation as required by federal and state laws.
- 84. Plaintiffs were victims of Defendants' common policy and practices which violate their rights under the FLSA and New York Labor Law by, *inter alia*, not paying them the wages they were owed for the hours they worked.
- 85. Defendants' pay practices resulted in Plaintiffs not receiving payment for all their hours worked, and resulting in Plaintiffs' effective rate of pay falling below the required minimum wage rate.

- 86. Defendants habitually required Plaintiff Cruz to work additional hours beyond his regular shifts but did not provide him with any additional compensation.
- 87. Defendants required all delivery workers, including Plaintiff Bautista, to perform general non-delivery, non-tipped juice bar/deli tasks in addition to their primary duties as delivery workers.
- 88. Plaintiff Bautista, and all similarly situated employees, ostensibly were employed as tipped employees by Defendants, although their actual duties included a significant amount of time spent performing non-delivery, non-tipped duties.
- 89. Plaintiff Bautista and all other delivery workers were paid at the lower tip-credit rate by Defendants. However, under state law, Defendants were not entitled to a tip credit because the delivery worker's and Plaintiff Bautista's non-tipped duties exceed 20% of each workday (or 2 hours a day, whichever is less) (12 N.Y.C.R.R. § 146).
- 90. New York State regulations provide that an employee cannot be classified as a tipped employee on any day in which he has been assigned to work in an occupation in which tips are not customarily received. (12 N.Y.C.R.R. §§137-3.3 and 137-3.4). Similarly, under federal regulation 29 C.F.R. §531.56(e), an employer may not take a tip credit for any employee time if that time is devoted to a non-tipped occupation.
- 91. The delivery workers', including Plaintiff Bautista's, duties were not incidental to their occupation as delivery workers, but instead constituted entirely unrelated general juice bar/deli work with duties, including the non-tipped duties described above.
- 92. In violation of federal and state law as codified above, Defendants classified Plaintiff Bautista and other delivery workers as tipped employees, and paid them at the tip-credit

rate when they should have classified them as non-tipped employees and paid them at the minimum wage rate.

- 93. Defendants failed to inform Plaintiffs who received tips that Defendants intended to take a deduction against Plaintiffs' earned wages for tip income, as required by the NYLL before any deduction may be taken.
- 94. Defendants failed to inform Plaintiffs that their tips were being credited towards the payment of the minimum wage.
- 95. Defendants failed to maintain a record of tips earned by Plaintiff Bautista for the deliveries he made to customers.
 - 96. Plaintiffs were paid their wages in cash.
- 97. Upon information and belief, these practices by Defendants were done willfully to disguise the actual number of hours Plaintiffs (and similarly situated individuals) worked, and to avoid paying Plaintiffs properly for their full hours worked.
- 98. Defendants engaged in their unlawful conduct pursuant to a corporate policy of minimizing labor costs and denying employees compensation by knowingly violating the FLSA and NYLL.
- 99. Defendants' unlawful conduct was intentional, willful, in bad faith, and caused significant damages to Plaintiffs and other similarly situated current and former workers.
- 100. Defendants failed to post at the workplace, or otherwise provide to employees, the required postings or notices to employees regarding the applicable wage and hour requirements of the FLSA and NYLL.

- statements at the time of their payment of wages, containing: the dates of work covered by that payment of wages; name of employee; name of employer; address and phone number of employer; rate or rates of pay and basis thereof, whether paid by the hour, shift, day, week, salary, piece, commission, or other; gross wages; deductions; allowances, if any, claimed as part of the minimum wage; net wages; the regular hourly rate or rates of pay; the overtime rate or rates of pay; the number of regular hours worked; and the number of overtime hours worked, as required by NYLL §195(3).
- 102. Defendants failed to provide Plaintiffs and other employees, at the time of hiring and on or before February 1 of each subsequent year, a statement in English and the employees' primary language, containing: the rate or rates of pay and basis thereof, whether paid by the hour, shift, day, week, salary, piece, commission, or other; allowances, if any, claimed as part of the minimum wage, including tip, meal, or lodging allowances; the regular pay day designated by the employer; the name of the employer; any "doing business as" names used by the employer; the physical address of the employer's main office or principal place of business, and a mailing address if different; and the telephone number of the employer, as required by New York Labor Law §195(1).

FLSA COLLECTIVE ACTION CLAIMS

103. Plaintiffs bring their FLSA minimum wage, overtime, and liquidated damages claims as a collective action pursuant to FLSA Section 16(b), 29 U.S.C. § 216(b), on behalf of all similarly situated persons who are or were employed by Defendants on or after the date that is three years before the filing of this Complaint (the "FLSA Class Period"), as employees of Defendants (the "FLSA Class").

- 104. At all relevant times, Plaintiffs, and other members of the FLSA Class who are and/or have been similarly situated, have had substantially similar job requirements and pay provisions.
- 105. At all relevant times, Plaintiffs, and other members of the FLSA Class who are and/or have been similarly situated, have been subject to Defendants' common practices, policies, programs, procedures, protocols and plans of willfully failing and refusing to pay them minimum wage and overtime at a one and one-half times their regular rates for work in excess of forty (40) hours per workweek.
 - 106. The claims of Plaintiffs stated herein are similar to those of the other employees.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

(VIOLATION OF THE MINIMUM WAGE PROVISIONS OF THE FLSA)

- 107. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege all paragraphs above as though fully set forth herein.
- 108. At all times relevant to this action, Defendants were Plaintiffs' employers within the meaning of the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. § 203(d). Defendants had the power to hire and fire Plaintiffs, controlled the terms and conditions of employment, and determined the rate and method of any compensation in exchange for their employment.
- 109. At all times relevant to this action, Defendants were engaged in commerce or in an industry or activity affecting commerce.
- 110. Defendants constitute an enterprise within the meaning of the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. § 203 (r-s).

- 111. In violation of 29 U.S.C. § 206(a), Defendants failed to pay Plaintiffs at the applicable minimum hourly rate.
- 112. Defendants' failure to pay Plaintiffs at the applicable minimum hourly rate was willful within the meaning of 29 U.S.C. § 255(a).
 - 113. Plaintiffs were damaged in an amount to be determined at trial.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

(VIOLATION OF THE OVERTIME PROVISIONS OF THE FLSA)

- 114. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege all paragraphs above as though fully set forth herein.
- 115. Defendants, in violation of 29 U.S.C. § 207(a)(1), failed to pay Plaintiffs overtime compensation at a rate of one and one-half times the regular rate of pay for each hour worked in excess of forty hours in a work week.
- 116. Defendants' failure to pay Plaintiffs, and the putative FLSA Class members, overtime compensation was willful within the meaning of 29 U.S.C. § 255(a).
 - 117. Plaintiffs were damaged in an amount to be determined at trial.

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

(VIOLATION OF THE NEW YORK MINIMUM WAGE ACT)

- 118. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege all paragraphs above as though fully set forth herein.
- 119. At all times relevant to this action, Defendants were Plaintiffs' employers within the meaning of the N.Y. Lab. Law §§ 2 and 651. Defendants had the power to hire and fire

Plaintiffs, controlled their terms and conditions of employment, and determined the rates and methods of any compensation in exchange for their employment.

- 120. Defendants, in violation of NYLL § 652(1) and the supporting regulations of the New York State Department of Labor, paid Plaintiffs less than the minimum wage.
- 121. Defendants' failure to pay Plaintiffs the minimum wage was willful within the meaning of N.Y. Lab. Law § 663.
 - 122. Plaintiffs were damaged in an amount to be determined at trial.

FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(VIOLATION OF THE OVERTIME PROVISIONS OF THE NEW YORK STATE LABOR LAW)

- 123. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege all paragraphs above as though fully set forth herein.
- 124. Defendants, in violation of N.Y. Lab. Law § 190 et seq., and supporting regulations of the New York State Department of Labor, failed to pay Plaintiffs overtime compensation at rates of one and one-half times the regular rate of pay for each hour worked in excess of forty hours in a work week.
- 125. Defendants' failure to pay Plaintiffs overtime compensation was willful within the meaning of N.Y. Lab. Law § 663.
 - 126. Plaintiffs were damaged in an amount to be determined at trial.

FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(VIOLATION OF THE SPREAD OF HOURS WAGE ORDER OF THE NEW YORK COMMISSIONER OF LABOR)

- 127. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege all paragraphs above as though fully set forth herein.
- 128. Defendants failed to pay Plaintiffs one additional hour's pay at the basic minimum wage rate before allowances for each day Plaintiffs' spread of hours exceeded ten

hours in violation of NYLL §§ 650 et seq. and 12 N.Y.C.R.R. §§ 146-1.6.

- 129. Defendants' failure to pay Plaintiffs an additional hour's pay for each day Plaintiffs' spread of hours exceeded ten hours was willful within the meaning of NYLL § 663.
 - 130. Plaintiffs were damaged in an amount to be determined at trial.

SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(VIOLATION OF THE NOTICE AND RECORDKEEPING REQUIREMENTS OF THE NEW YORK LABOR LAW)

- 131. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege all paragraphs above as though fully set forth herein.
- Spanish (Plaintiffs' primary language), containing: the rate or rates of pay and basis thereof, whether paid by the hour, shift, day, week, salary, piece, commission, or other; allowances, if any, claimed as part of the minimum wage, including tip, meal, or lodging allowances; the regular pay day designated by the employer; the name of the employer; any "doing business as" names used by the employer; the physical address of the employer's main office or principal place of business, and a mailing address if different; and the telephone number of the employer, as required by NYLL §195(1).
- 133. Defendants are liable to each Plaintiff in the amount of \$5,000, together with costs and attorneys' fees.

SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(VIOLATION OF THE WAGE STATEMENT PROVISIONS OF THE NEW YORK LABOR LAW)

- 134. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege all paragraphs above as though set forth fully herein.
- 135. With each payment of wages, Defendants failed to provide Plaintiffs with an accurate statement listing each the following: the dates of work covered by that payment of

wages; name of employee; name of employer; address and phone number of employer; rate or rates of pay and basis thereof, whether paid by the hour, shift, day, week, salary, piece, commission, or other; gross wages; deductions; allowances, if any, claimed as part of the minimum wage; net wages; the regular hourly rate or rates of pay; the overtime rate or rates of pay; the number of regular hours worked; and the number of overtime hours worked, as required by NYLL 195(3).

136. Defendants are liable to each Plaintiff in the amount of \$5,000, together with costs and attorneys' fees.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs respectfully request that this Court enter judgment against Defendants by:

- (a) Designating this action as a collective action and authorizing prompt issuance of notice pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b) to all putative class members apprising them of the pendency of this action, and permitting them to promptly file consents to be Plaintiffs in the FLSA claims in this action;
- (b) Declaring that Defendants violated the minimum wage provisions of, and associated rules and regulations under, the FLSA as to Plaintiffs (including the prospective collective class members);
- (c) Declaring that Defendants violated the overtime wage provisions of, and associated rules and regulations under, the FLSA as to Plaintiffs (including the prospective collective class members);
 - (d) Declaring that Defendants violated the recordkeeping requirements of, and

associated rules and regulations under, the FLSA with respect to Plaintiffs' (and the prospective collective class members') compensation, hours, wages, and any deductions or credits taken against wages;

- (e) Declaring that Defendants' violation of the provisions of the FLSA were willful as to Plaintiffs (including the prospective collective class members);
- (f) Awarding Plaintiffs (including the prospective collective class members) damages for the amount of unpaid minimum and overtime wages, and damages for any improper deductions or credits taken against wages under the FLSA as applicable;
- (g) Awarding Plaintiffs (including the prospective collective class members) liquidated damages in an amount equal to 100% of their damages for the amount of unpaid minimum and overtime wages, and damages for any improper deductions or credits taken against wages under the FLSA as applicable pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b):
- (h) Declaring that Defendants violated the minimum wage provisions of, and rules and orders promulgated under, the NYLL as to Plaintiffs;
- (i) Declaring that Defendants violated the overtime wage provisions of, and rules and orders promulgated under, the NYLL as to Plaintiffs;
- (j) Declaring that Defendants violated the spread-of-hours requirements of the NYLL
 and supporting regulations;
- (k) Declaring that Defendants violated the notice and recordkeeping requirements of the NYLL with respect to Plaintiffs' compensation, hours, wages and any deductions or credits taken against wages;
- (I) Awarding Plaintiffs damages for the amount of unpaid minimum and overtime wages, and for any improper deductions or credits taken against wages, as well as awarding

spread of hours pay under the NYLL as applicable;

(m) Awarding Plaintiffs damages for Defendants' violation of the NYLL notice and

recordkeeping provisions, pursuant to NYLL §§198(1-b), 198(1-d);

Awarding Plaintiffs liquidated damages in an amount equal to one hundred (n)

percent (100%) of the total amount of minimum wage, spread of hours pay and overtime

compensation shown to be owed pursuant to NYLL § 663 as applicable; and liquidated damages

pursuant to NYLL § 198(3);

Awarding Plaintiffs (including the prospective collective class members) pre-(o)

judgment and post-judgment interest as applicable;

Awarding Plaintiffs (including the prospective collective class members) the (p)

expenses incurred in this action, including costs and attorneys' fees;

Providing that if any amounts remain unpaid upon the expiration of ninety days (q)

following issuance of judgment, or ninety days after expiration of the time to appeal and no

appeal is then pending, whichever is later, the total amount of judgment shall automatically

increase by fifteen percent, as required by NYLL § 198(4); and

(r) All such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

JURY DEMAND

Plaintiffs demand a trial by jury on all issues triable by a jury.

Dated: New York, New York

February 10, 2025

MICHAEL FAILLACE Esq.

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By: /s/ Michael Faillace

Michael Faillace [MF-8436] MICHAEL FAILLACE Esq. Michael A. Faillace [MF-8436] 60 East 42nd Street, suite 4510 New York, New York 10165 Telephone: (212) 317-1200 Facsimile: (212) 317-1620